

CLAIMS

1.(Currently amended) A method for selectively controlling personal use of a device having an operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, the method comprising the steps of:

~~reader user-related data from a user-associated user authentication means for processing by a device operation control logic;~~

~~the method being characterized by~~

~~using said electronic control circuit to control the use of said device using user-related data and/or user initiated data to select different types of operations, said electronic control circuit being controlled by a personal authentication token and which data is processed by a device operation control logic,~~

said user related data on said personal authentication token comprising selective information concerning a user-desired type of operation of said device wherein logic which evaluates said data is located at least partly on said personal identification token and provides said device operation control logic with a signal which is able to filter some permitted types of operations, thereby allowing the user access to said device and other options emanating from the control logic embedded in said personal authentication token, with security levels as between said device and said personal authentication token being controlled by said personal authentication token.
reading operation type specific data from said device for processing by said device operation control logic with the result that the data is user-related data stored on the personal authentication token and is maintained in the possession of the user,

processing both data for providing a result,

deciding according to said result if a desired user-type of operation of said device will be allowed or not, and

enabling or preventing said desired type of operation of said device according to said decision.

2.(Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which said step of processing user-related data and operation type specific data is performed at least partly on said user associated authentication means by means of computing resources comprised of comprising said user-associated authentication means.

3.(Currently Amended) The method according to claim +2 comprising the step of comparing current time information read from said device to predetermined time limits stored on said user authentication means for delimiting the duration of operation of said device.

4.(Currently Amended) The method according to claim +3, for selectively controlling operation of TV devices where the step of reading operation type specific data comprises reading at least one of: current date, current time, available channels, show-view-codes.

5.(Currently Amended) The method according to claim +3 used for selectively controlling operation of cars where the step of reading operation type specific data comprises reading at least one of: current date, current time, geographic position via a GPS interface, accumulated duration of use in a predetermined time interval.

6.(Currently Amended) The method according to claim +3 for selectively controlling operation of at least one computer device.

7.(Original) A device, the operation of which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, and being used as a controllable object according to the method according to claim 1.

8.(Currently Amended) A user-authentication means arranged for interaction with an operation control logic for a device according to as defined in claim 7, for use in the method according to claim 1.

9.(Original) The user-authentication means according to claim 8, being incorporated in a Smartcard.

10. (Currently Amended) The user-authentication means according to claim 9, wherein said Smartcard being selected from a Java card, Smartcard for Windows or a Smartcard based on the Multios operatin system Java™ card, a Smartcard for Windows™, or a Smart card based on the Mult OS™ operating system.

11.(Currently Amended) Interface means comprising connection means to an electronic control circuit controlling the operation of a device according to as defined in claim 7 and intended for performing the method steps comprising:

~~reader user-related data from a user-associated user authentication means for processing by a device operation control logic;~~

~~the method being characterized by~~

using said electronic control circuit to control the use of said device using user-related data and/or user initiated data to select different types of operations, said electronic control circuit being controlled by a personal authentication token and which data is processed by a device operation control logic,

said user related data on said personal authentication token comprising selective information concerning a user-desired type of operation of said device wherein logic which evaluates said data is located at least partly on said personal identification token and provides said device operation control logic with a signal which is able to filter some permitted types of operations, thereby allowing the user access to said device and other options emanating from the control logic embedded in said personal authentication token, with security levels as between said device and said personal authentication token being controlled by said personal authentication token, reading operation type specific data from said device for processing by said device operation control logic, with the result that the data is user-related data stored on the personal

authentication token and is maintained in the possession of the user,

processing both data for providing a result,

deciding according to said result if a desired user-type of operation of said device will be allowed or not, and

enabling or preventing said desired type of operation of said device according to said decision.

12.(Original) An interface means according to claim 11, arranged for communicating with user-authentication means arranged for interaction with an operation control logic.

13.(Currently Amended) Interface means according to claim 12, characterized by being which is a Set-top box for being added-on a device. ~~being subjectable to the method steps.~~

14.(Cancelled) A system comprising means for performing the method steps according to Claim 1.

15.(Original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing controlled personal use of a device having operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing the computer to effect the steps of claim 1.

16.(Original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing controlled personal use of a device having operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing the computer to effect the steps of claim 2.

17.(Original) An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing controlled personal use of a device having operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing the computer to effect the steps of claim 3.

18.(Original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangible embodying a program of instruction executable by the machine to perform method steps for causing controlled personal use of a device having operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, said method steps comprising the steps of claim 1.

19.(Original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangible embodying a program of instruction executable by the machine to perform method steps for causing controlled personal use of a device having operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, said method steps comprising the steps of claim 4.

20.(Original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangible embodying a program of instruction executable by the machine to perform method steps for causing controlled personal use of a device having operation which is controllable by an electronic control circuit, said method steps comprising the steps of claim 5.